

REMARKS

These remarks and amendments are in response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2007 ("Office Action") and are timely filed. Authorization is given to charge the additional claim fees and any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

At the time of the Office Action, claims 16-30 were pending. In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to, claim 24 was objected to for an informality, claim 30 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st ¶ and claims 20 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd ¶. Claims 16, 18, 22-24, 27 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,027,330 to Lifshits. The rejections and responses thereto are set out more fully below.

I. Drawing Objections

The Office Action objected to drawings as not showing member 112 as being a literal sphere. Applicant herewith amends claim 29 to recite that the member is at least partially spherical. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

II. Claim Objection

The Office Action objected to a typographical error in claim 24. Claim 24 has been amended in accordance with the suggestion in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st ¶

Claim 30 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st ¶. Claim 30 has been cancelled herewith and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd ¶

The Office Action rejected claim 20 as being indefinite for lack of antecedent basis. Appropriate amendment has been made to claim 20 to remove the lack of antecedent basis. The Office Action rejected claim 20 as being indefinite. An appropriate amendment has been made to claim 25 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

V. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 and Response Thereto

Claims 16, 18, 22-24, 27 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,027,330 to Lifshits. Although Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejections, Applicant herewith amends the claims to those claims indicated as allowable to expedite prosecution to a notice of allowance. Finally, three new independent claims, composed of those claim combinations indicated as allowable, are introduced herewith, such that the total number of independent claims for this application is four. The undersigned counsel authorizes the fees for the additional independent claim to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

VI. Conclusion

The currently pending independent claims have already been indicated as allowed. Accordingly, the dependent claims are believed to be allowable due to their dependence on an allowable base claim and for further features recited therein. The application is believed to be in condition for immediate allowance; however, if any issues remain outstanding, Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

AKERMAN SENTERFITT

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/Peter A. Chiabotti/
Peter A. Chiabotti, Reg. No. 54,603
Customer No. 30448
Post Office Box 3188
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3188
Telephone: (561) 653-5000